

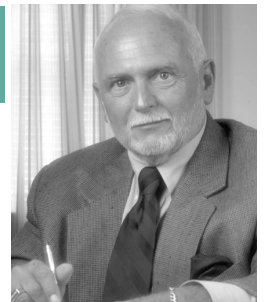
To: Community Representatives

From: Thomas Gallagher, Ph.D., Director  
Office of Community Liaison  
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Date: December 2002

## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

**T**he National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID) is a state-of-the-art research enterprise carried out by world-class scientists on NIH campuses in Bethesda and Rockville, Maryland, and in Hamilton, Montana. The Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center on the NIH campus is also an intramural component of NIAID. Currently, NIAID is expanding its research programs in order to develop new and improved diagnostics, treatments and vaccines for diseases caused by naturally occurring infectious agents as well as microbes that may be intentionally released into a civilian population.



*Thomas Gallagher, Ph.D.*

For this important research agenda to be carried out safely, NIAID needs to construct Building 33, a new Integrated Research Facility on the NIH campus. NIAID is committed to ensuring that its employees work in the safest possible laboratories, and that these laboratories will also eliminate risks to the surrounding community.

A portion of Building 33 will employ the highest safety standards recommended for the proposed research to be conducted there, standards known as Biosafety Level 3 (BSL-3). BSL-3 laboratories are expressly designed to prevent scientists and the environment from being exposed to the microbes being studied. Other laboratories of this same type have been operational on the Bethesda campus for decades without incident. All NIH BSL-3 laboratories comply with stringent Federal and state regulations for construction, use, security, inspection and certification.

Building 33 will be an approximately 75,000-net-square-foot Integrated Research Facility housing laboratories, offices, conference rooms, animal quarters, mechanical space and a waste-handling area. In addition to the BSL-3 laboratories, the facility will include a suite of laboratories designed to operate at BSL-2 level. The NIH campus already has many laboratories operating at BSL-2 and BSL-3 levels.

BSL-3 laboratories have several safeguards to ensure that infectious agents are properly contained or destroyed. These measures include maintaining the BSL-3 suites at negative air pressure relative to the surrounding rooms so that all the airflow is directed into the suites and never out into the surrounding rooms; microfiltration of air; air-lock buffer zones and long-time, high-temperature decontamination of all materials produced in the facility. For an extensive list of safety requirements and policies see:

<http://bmbi.od.nih.gov/sect3bsl3.htm>.

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The Community Liaison Council will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, December 19, at 4 p.m.**, in the Natcher Conference Center, Building 45, Conference Room D on the NIH Campus.

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BSL-2 laboratories are used for the study of moderate-risk agents associated with human disease. Scientists and technicians must wear splash shields, face protection, gowns and gloves while using extra care with needles and glass, and they must decontaminate the work area and materials after each procedure. Biosafety cabinets are used to work with concentrated cultures or procedures that generate aerosols.

Currently, there is insufficient existing laboratory space on the Bethesda campus. Building 33 is designed to be a state-of-the-art facility. It will increase the research capacity of NIAID and allow scientists to carry out the President's mandate to vastly expand the Institute's biodefense research agenda and to pursue scientific opportunities that have been delayed or deferred because of the lack of adequate high-containment research facilities. The lack of such facilities has also delayed the development of vaccines for naturally occurring diseases that threaten our local population, such as that caused by West Nile virus.

The current NIAID research agenda needs to be carried out on the Bethesda campus of NIH. The research can most efficiently be developed only on a solid understanding of the basic biology of the disease-causing agents and only with the use of specialized BSL-2 and BSL-3 laboratories, such as Building 33. NIAID is world renowned for its expertise in basic and clinical research on infectious microbes. Because some of the microbes studied at NIH are naturally newly emerging in the United States or may jump from animals to humans, they share characteristics with potential agents of bioterrorism. NIAID scientists and clinicians have long-term experience in studying such organisms. This group of infectious disease experts is uniquely qualified to apply their knowledge and skills to investigate these diseases and to develop strategies and products to counter the threats they pose.

Having this new facility on the NIH campus takes full advantage of the rich infrastructure, both physical and intellectual, present in the NIAID's existing intramural research program. The proximity of basic and clinical researchers with expertise in infectious diseases provides the foundation for

the research and development program that is NIAID's mandate. It would take at least 10 more years and more than \$1 billion to duplicate this basic and clinical infrastructure elsewhere. The NIH campus minimizes replication of costly support services and allows use of analytic capability in genomics, proteomics and imaging. Furthermore, the new laboratory helps fulfill NIAID's biodefense mandate, and makes the President's goals for biodefense research attainable within a meaningful timeframe.

The ultimate goal of the Building 33 research program is to provide information and to translate this information into diagnostics, treatments and vaccines that will protect civilians against agents of bioterrorism. Although safety measures will limit access to the facility, it is anticipated that all research carried out in the facility will be published and communicated in the same manner as other NIH research.

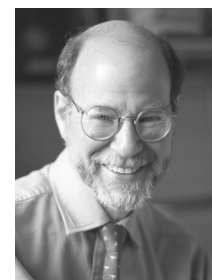
For more information on this topic, please see the OCL Web site at <http://ocl.od.nih.gov> and click on the "What's New" button.

## NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

### NIH Grantees Win Nobel Prizes

Two NIH grantees won separate Nobel science and medicine prizes. The awards which were announced this past October go to H. Robert Horvitz, Ph.D., and John Fenn, Ph.D., both long-time grantees with the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) at NIH.

Dr. Horvitz, a biology professor with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. He is cited for characterizing key genes controlling cell death—a role which is essential for embryonic development and, when improperly controlled, is a hallmark of numerous diseases. Dr. Fenn, a professor of analytical chemistry at Virginia Commonwealth University, won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for



Dr. Horvitz

refining an analytical technique called mass spectrometry. This technique makes it possible to analyze large molecules in biological samples, essentially revolutionizing the development of new medicines and advancing disease diagnosis.

Both men share their awards. Dr. Horvitz, who has received more than \$7 million in research grants from NIH over the past 25 years, shares the prize with Sydney Brenner, D.Phil., of the Molecular Sciences Institute in Berkeley, California, and John E. Sulston, Ph.D., of the Sanger Centre in Cambridge, UK.

Dr. Fenn shares his award with Koichi Tanaka of Simadzu Corporation in Kyoto, Japan, and with Kurt Wüthrich, Ph.D., of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland, and the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California. NIGMS provided Dr. Fenn with more than \$1.5 million to support this prize-winning research.



John Fenn, Ph.D.

## NIH Supports International Effort To Discover Genes Related to Diseases

Last month, NIH joined a team of international research experts to create the next generation map of the human genome. Called the International HapMap Project, this public/private venture aims to discover genes related to common illnesses such as asthma, cancer, diabetes and heart disease.

In the next three years, project researchers will chart genetic variation within the human genome. By comparing the differences among individuals, HapMap researchers will try to create a tool to help scientists detect the genetic contributions to many diseases. Building on the foundation of the Human Genome Project, the HapMap will begin individualizing these genetic differences.

Experts agree that the HapMap will accelerate medical research around the world not only by identifying genes related to disease, but also by showing how genes can influence reactions to various medications. These discoveries could improve drug design as well as help prevent adverse drug reactions.

"The goal of studying the human genome has always been to provide health benefits to all humankind," said Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D., director of the National Human Genome Research Institute at NIH. "The HapMap will provide a powerful tool to help us take the next quantum leap toward understanding the fundamental contribution that genes make to common illnesses like cancer, diabetes and mental illness."

To create the HapMap, researchers will collect blood samples from individuals in selected regions of the world. These samples will be analyzed, and results will be made public on the Internet in keeping with the data release approach of the Human Genome Project.

Public funding of the effort is provided by an international consortium which includes the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

## Maryland Science Center Opens New BodyLink Exhibit

Are you interested in learning about health and science in an easy and fun way? Want to introduce your kids to healthy behaviors, but don't know how? Well, the Maryland Science Center just launched a new exhibit that makes science fun! *BodyLink* is a new multimedia-based exhibit that provides the latest, cutting-edge biomedical research in a friendly, informative, and interactive format. Funded in part by NIH, the Maryland Science Center aims to provide the community with the latest health information in a clear and understandable way to visitors of all ages.



Infection, the Board Game

Made up of three core elements, *BodyLink* provides information on genetics, immunology and controlling your own health. Visitors to the exhibit can play "Infection," a colorful game where you are the germ trying to get past the powerful defenses of a healthy immune system; investigate the role of genes in your personal health; and learn ways to take an active role in staying healthy. Don't miss

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your chance to see *The Human Body*, an IMAX film feature. As if the hands-on exhibits aren't enough, health-science educators are available to provide additional information and demonstrations to visitors. Teacher training workshops are also available to help take this information into school classrooms.

*BodyLink* opened on November 21, 2002. The Maryland Science Center is located at 601 Light Street in Baltimore. For more information and costs, call 410-685-5225 or visit <http://www.mdsci.org>.

## NCI Launches Lung Screening Trial

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) launched a new study this fall to determine if screening people with either spiral computerized tomography (CT) or chest X-ray before they have symptoms can reduce deaths from lung cancer. The National Lung Screening Trial (NLST) is enrolling 50,000 current and former smokers at 30 different locations across the country.

"NLST is important because there are an estimated 90 million current and former smokers in the United States at high risk for lung cancer, and death rates for this disease, unlike many other cancers, have not declined," said NLST co-director John Gohagan, Ph.D., of NCI's Division of Cancer Prevention.

"Lung cancer kills more people than cancers of the breast, prostate, colon and pancreas combined and will claim nearly 155,000 lives this year. Our hope is that this study will lead to saving lives."

Trial experts believe the study will provide the evidence needed to determine whether spiral CT scans are better than chest X-rays at reducing a person's risk of dying from lung cancer. Spiral CT can pick up tumors well under one centimeter, while chest X-rays detect tumors about one to two centimeters in size.

To conduct the study, NCI is using two research networks currently conducting other screening trials for the Institute. The trial is a randomized, controlled study, meaning that participants will be randomly assigned to receive either a chest X-ray or a spiral CT once a year for three years. Researchers will monitor participants annually until 2009.

Men and women can participate in this free study if they meet the following requirements:

- Are a current or former smoker, aged 55 to 74;
- Have never had lung cancer and have not had any cancer within the last five years (except some skin or *in situ* cancers);
- Are not currently enrolled in any other cancer screening or cancer prevention trial; and
- Have not had a CT scan of the chest or lungs within the last 18 months.

For more information about the study and its locations, call 1-800-4-CANCER (TTY 1-800-332- 8615) or visit <http://www.cancer.gov/NLST>.

## NIH Clinical Center Debuts Clown School

This fall a team of NIH professionals embarked on new kind of professional education—clown training. Volunteers from the Rehabilitation Medicine Department's Recreation Therapy Section



Meet the new recruits from Caring Clown School.

were the first to graduate from Caring Clowns school. These newly trained clowns are providing empathy and support to both patients and staff at the NIH Clinical Center. After finding their "clown from within," each of the volunteers developed a clown character. Once the character had developed, the clowns learned how to best provide clown care. Be on the lookout for these new clowns as they spread their smile therapy. If you are interested in volunteering, call George Patrick at 301-496-2278 or send an e-mail to [gpatrick@mail.cc.nih.gov](mailto:gpatrick@mail.cc.nih.gov).

## NIH CALENDAR OF EVENTS\*

**December 1** .....  
**NIH Community Orchestra Messiah Sing-Along**, featuring a holiday community concert, 2 p.m., Walt Whitman High School Auditorium, 7100 Whittier Boulevard, Bethesda, \$10. For more information, call 301-897-8184 or send an e-mail to Gary Daum at [gldaum@gprep.org](mailto:gldaum@gprep.org).

## December 4 .....

### **The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lectures:**

*From Genes to Pores—Nuclear Transport and Growth Control* by Pamela Silver, Ph.D., Harvard Medical School and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

## December 6 .....

**Holiday Fundraiser for the Department of Laboratory Medicine, NIH Clinical Center**, featuring a coffee, tea and bake sale; silent auction; pizza for lunch and more, 9 a.m.–2 p.m., Room 2C310, Building 10, NIH campus. Call Sheila Barrett at 301-436-5668 for more information or to make donations.

### **The 2002–2003 NIH Director's Lecture Series:**

*cAMP-dependent Signaling in Health and Disease: Protein Kinase A and Endocrine Tumor Genetics* by Constantine Stratakis, M.D., D.Sc., National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, noon, Wilson Hall, Building 1, NIH campus, free and open to the public. For more information, call Colleen Crone at 301-496-1921.

## December 9 .....

### **NIH Manchester String Quartet Music Series: Schubert**

*Quartet in A Minor, opus 29 #1 D. 804*, 12:30 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Sharon Greenwell at 301-496-4713 for more information.

## December 11 .....

### **NLM History of Medicine Seminar Series: Quarantining**

*Prostitutes: VD Rapid Treatment Centers in World War II America* by Dr. John Parascandola, U.S. Public Health Service, 2–3:15 p.m., Lister Hill Auditorium, Building 38A, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call 301-594-0992 for more information or visit [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/seminars\\_2002.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/seminars_2002.html).

### **Behavioral and Social Sciences Lecture Series: Resilience:**

*A Biopsychosocial Perspective on What Protects Health* by Carol Ryff, Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, 3 p.m., Conference Room C, Neuroscience Center, 6001 Executive Boulevard, Bethesda, free and open to the public. Call Ronald Abeles at 301-496-7859 for more information or visit <http://obssr.od.nih.gov>.

### **The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lectures:**

*An Ecological Role for *Pseudomonas* Virulence Factors* by Roberto G. Kolter, Ph.D., Harvard Medical School, 3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information.

## December 14 .....

**NIH Chamber Music Concert**, 2 p.m., Twinbrook Library, 202 Meadow Hall Drive, Rockville, free and open to the public. Call the library for more information at 240-777-0240.

## December 16 .....

### **NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: Choice and Chance:**

*Saccadic Randomness and Implications* by Roger Carpenter, Ph.D., University of Cambridge, noon, Wilson Hall, Building 1, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Dr. Story Landis at 301-435-2232 for more information or visit <http://neuroseries.info.nih.gov/index.asp>.

## December 17 .....

**Mobile Mammography Screening by the George Washington University Breast Care Center**, screening available for NIH employees, their families, contractors, volunteers and others associated with NIH, 9:30 a.m.–3:45 p.m. by appointment only, Building 45, NIH campus, \$138. To make an appointment, call 202-994-9999.

## December 18 .....

### **The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lectures:**

*Prometheus' Vulture and the Promise of Stem Cells* by Nadia Rosenthal, Ph.D., Harvard Medical School, 3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information.

*\*Calendar items subject to change. Call to confirm your event.*

## OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST

### **County Opens New Child Safety Seat Inspection Station**

To help keep children safe, Montgomery County officials opened a permanent child car seat inspection facility in Silver Spring, this past summer. The inspection station, one of 30 new facilities in the United States, and the only one in Maryland, is part of the national SAFE KIDS campaign. The stations are staffed with certified safety technicians to ensure that each car seat inspected fits properly and securely, that the seat is appropriate for the age and size of the child and to see if the seat has been damaged or recalled. Car seats are also available to low-income families who can't afford one.

The new inspection station, which is open for appointments between 7 a.m. and noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month, is located in the County's Fire and Rescue Services' Community Services Building at 14111 Georgia Ave. Call 240-777-3636 for an appointment.

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## Holiday Happenings Set for Area

Don't miss some of the area's finest in holiday splendor! A variety of holiday special events and activities are planned for the area. Below is a sampling:

### Montgomery County Holiday Parade

On Saturday, December 7, watch the County-sponsored lively parade of marching bands, celebrities, local officials and, of course, Santa Claus as he arrives in town. The parade begins at 10 a.m. on Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring. For more information, call 301-565-7300.

### Candlelight Farmhouse Tour

On December 14 and 15, from noon to 8 p.m., the historic Brussard farmhouse will be filled with organ music, candlelight and Christmas carolers. Bring a camera for photos in a real old-time sleigh or go on a hayride. Refreshments will be available. The farmhouse is located in the Agricultural History Farm Park, 18400 Muncaster Mill Road, in Derwood. Call 301-670-4661 x1 for costs or more information.

### Brookside's Winter Garden Walk

Don't miss the spectacular half-mile, walk-through light display at Brookside Gardens. Featuring more than 600,000 miniature lights, the displays are artfully crafted to depict much of the existing flora and fauna found at the gardens. Walk hours are from 5:30 to 9 p.m., on select dates through January 5. Prices are \$15 per car/van on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and \$10 on all other days. Call 301-962-1453 for more information.

### Holiday Sing-Along at Little Falls Library

Join the Friends of the Library for a holiday sing-along on Saturday, December 7, at 10 a.m. Music and refreshments are featured. The library is located at 5501 Massachusetts Avenue in Bethesda. Call 301-320-4880 for more information.

### Beall-Dawson House Holiday Tours

Come and see the Beall-Dawson House draped in holiday finery during the month of December. This year's theme is the Jazz Age and the '30s. Hot cider and homemade cookies will be served. The house is open from noon to 4 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday, and tours are \$3. The house is located at 103 West Montgomery Avenue in Rockville. Call 301-762-1492 for more information.

### Bethesda's Winter Wonderland

On December 7, join local children's groups and schools as they perform during Bethesda's Winter Wonderland. Featuring entertainment, cultural activities, music, caroling, ice skating and Santa Claus, the fun takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Bethesda Metro Center and the Newland Building Plaza (at the corner of Old Georgetown Road and Wisconsin Avenue). Call 301-215-6660 for more information.

### Holly Trolleyfest

The National Capital Trolley Museum offers a celebration of lights, toy trains and trolley rides complete with visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus on weekends this month from 5 to 9 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$3 and seniors/children are \$2. The museum is located at 1313 Bonifant Road in Colesville. Call 301-384-6088 or visit <http://www.dctrolley.org/> for more information.

### Seneca Creek State Park Holds Annual Winter Lights Festival

Join in a magical winter wonderland at the seventh annual Winter Lights Festival at Seneca Creek State Park in Gaithersburg.

Throughout December, visitors to the park can embark on a 3.5 mile drive through more than 300 lighted displays, 60 of which are animated. See leaping fish, shimmering snowflakes, a flying eagle, bears in snowball fights and more. Themed areas include the Winter Woods where nature comes alive, Teddy Bear Land with bears getting into mischief, ice skaters in Victorian Village and Santa at the North Pole. Don't miss this unique lighting festival as proceeds benefit local charities. Winter Lights is open Sunday through Thursday, from 6 to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, from 6 to 10 p.m. (except for Dec. 25). Admission is \$10 per car, \$25 per 15-passenger van and \$50 per bus. Seneca Creek State Park is located at 11950 Clopper Road. For more information, call 301-258-6350.





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## **Stoney Creek Pond Information Now Available**

In case you missed the meeting this summer about the storm water management planned for Stoney Creek Pond in Bethesda, the Montgomery County Department of Education has made summary documents from this public meeting available. Citizens may review these documents between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., in the Bethesda–Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, located at 4805 Edgemoor Lane in Bethesda. They are also available via e-mail request. To request a copy, send an e-mail to [bethesda.citizen@co.mo.md.us](mailto:bethesda.citizen@co.mo.md.us) or call 301-986-4325.

## **Audubon Society Holds Holiday Fair**

Join the Audubon Naturalist Society on December 7 and 8 for its annual juried holiday crafts fair. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the public can purchase nature-themed arts and crafts, holiday greenery and birdseed and an assortment of nature and wildlife books. Children will enjoy the arts and crafts tables as well as the Scales and Tales live nature exhibits. Shopping takes place in heated tents on the grounds of Woodend Sanctuary at 8940 Jones Mill Road in Chevy Chase. On-site parking is limited, but free shuttle service is available from North Chevy Chase Elementary School and the Waverly Street public parking lot near the Bethesda Metro. For more information, call 301-652-9188 or visit <http://www.audubonnaturalist.org>.

## **Library of Congress Launches Talking Book Education Campaign**

Montgomery County Public Libraries and the Library of Congress launched a new public education campaign this fall to promote the benefits of talking books to people with vision loss, physical handicaps and eligible older readers. The “Take a Talking Book” program provides high-quality recordings of books and magazines to those who can’t see regular print, hold a book or turn a page. The new program, which runs in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia through March 2003, is part of a plan to improve services to older Americans.

Libraries are providing talking books along with the playback equipment via mail to those who are

eligible. With more than 60,000 book titles available in recorded formats, the program is able to provide a range of books similar to that in any public library. The Montgomery County Special Needs Library, located in the Davis Library in Bethesda, provides this service in both English and Spanish. The library also provides a small print Braille collection, the County’s biggest collection of large print books, and a deposit collection service for those in nursing homes. For more information about this service, call 1-888-787-2771.

## **Stock Information Now Available at Local Libraries**

Having a hard time keeping track of your investments and their performance over time? Current information and analysis on approximately 20,000 stocks and funds are now available online at all Montgomery County Public Libraries. Provided by online investment resource Morningstar.com®, this new service provides the public with access to stock performance reports and ratings. Users of the service can also create and evaluate sample portfolios. To access the information, use the library’s computers and log on to <http://www.montgomerylibrary.org>. Call your nearest library for more information about this new service.

## **TRY THIS WEB SITE: <http://www.nih.gov/od/museum>**

The National Library of Medicine at NIH houses a unique museum called the DeWitt Stetten, Jr. Museum of Medical Research. The museum, which was established in 1986 as part of the NIH centennial observance, collects and showcases biomedical research instruments and NIH memorabilia. Visitors to the museum’s Web site can see online exhibitions and galleries, look up historical facts and learn more about the museum itself. Current online exhibits include drugs as medicines, computers as laboratory instruments and medical illustrations. Learn how 20th century researchers at NIH created new opiate drugs and developed synthetic sources for morphine and codeine; look at the development of the computer throughout medical research; and view anatomical illustrations by Howard Bartner.

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Women Volunteers Needed

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch at the National Institute of Mental Health needs women between the ages of 40 and 50 to participate in perimenopause studies. Volunteers must have regular menstrual cycles and be medication-free. Periodic hormonal evaluations, symptom rating completion and occasional interviews will be performed. Participants will be paid. Call Linda Simpson-St. Clair at 301-496-9576 for more information.

### Children's Speech Study

NIH is looking for children ages 5–12 to participate in a study to better understand stuttering and speech articulation disorders. There is no charge for participation. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222 (TTY 1-866-411-1010).

### NIH Blood Bank Needs Donors

The NIH Blood Bank is in urgent need of Type O blood. If you are a Type O blood-donor, please call 301-469-1048 to make an appointment to donate blood at the Blood Bank (Department of Transfusion Medicine), located on the first floor of the Clinical Center, Building 10, on the NIH main campus in Bethesda. Walk-in donors are also welcome. The NIH Blood Bank is open Tuesday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Convenient, free parking is available directly adjacent to the Blood Bank entrance. If you have not donated blood before and are not sure if you are eligible, visit <http://www.cc.nih.gov/dtm/html/donrinfo.htm>.

### Have Difficulty Swallowing?

NIH is conducting a study to learn more about the relationship between reduced tongue strength and swallowing problems. Call 1-800-411-1222 (TTY 1-866-411-1010) for more information.

*The OCL Update is available on our Web site at <http://ocl.od.nih.gov>. If you would rather view this document online and not receive a printed version, please contact the OCL office at 301-496-3931. If you would like to list an upcoming event of interest to the local community, call Terry LaMotte at Palladian Partners, OCL support contractor, at 301-650-8660, or send her an e-mail at [tlamotte@palladianpartners.com](mailto:tlamotte@palladianpartners.com).*

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### Office of Community Liaison

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